GRAND JURY TO MAKE INQUIRY

Will Have Witnesses Examined in Connection With Alleged Sale of Whiskey at Pocahontas.

The following inquiry was addressed to Mr. J. W. Harman, Commonwealth's Attorney of Tazewell, and his reply thereto follows below:

Tazewell, Va., July 17, 1916 Mr. J. W. Harman, Commonwealth's Attorney, Tazewell, Virginia. Dear Sir:

Dear Sir:

Reports from both public and private sources, which we have good reason to believe are creditable, are to the effect, that the prohibition law of the State is openly, flagrantly and defiantly violated and ignored in the town of Pocahontas and vicinity. Have you, as State's attorney, jurisdiction, and if so, have you investigated these charges and reports of the violation of the prohibition law, and if so, what were your findings? If these violators of the law have not been called to answer, why havn't they? As a private citizen of this county, a tax payer and a voter, we are sure you will admit that we have the right to an answer to these questions in the interest of good government.

Should you see fit to reply the

tions in the seriment.
Should you see fit to reply, the same will be published in the columns of the clinch Valley News.
Yours very truly,

EDITOR C. V NEWS.

Mr. Harman's Reply.

Mr. Editor: In reply to your inquiry, I beg to advise that the conditions at Pocahontas will be investigated by the Grand Jury on August 28th. I have the names of several persons who will be summoned as witnesses in this investigation, and the names of others will be added to the list from time to time until that date.

the list from time to time until that date.

Justices of the Peace and the Circuit Court have concurrent jurisdiction of violations of the prohibition laws, although the jurisdiction of the Circuit Court is very much hampered on account of the fact that the grand jury is in session only four times during the year, and even when in session it is practically impossible to throroughly investigate illegal traffic in liquor, especially at points remote from the county scat. When an investigation is started it naturally becomes necessary to send for additional witnesses from time to time as their connection with the matter is shown, and when the investigation is conducted by the grand jury twenty-five miles from the place under investigation, it is with much difficulty, expense and delay that the attendance of the new witnesses is secured, and the usual result is that the grand jury is discharged without a thorough and complete investigation.

Section 3956 of the Code of Virginia movides that the grand is regimed to the code of virginia movides that the account of the regime movides that the code of Virginia movides that the account of the regime movides that the account of the code of Virginia movides that the account of the code of Virginia movides that the account of the code of Virginia movides that the account of the code of Virginia movides that the account of the code of Virginia movides that the account of the code of Virginia movides that the account of the code of Virginia movides that the account of the code of Virginia movides that the account of the code of Virginia movides that the account of the code of Virginia movides that the account of the code of Virginia movides that the account of the code of Virginia movides the the code of the code of Virginia movides that the account of the code of Virginia movides that the account of the code of the code of Virginia movides the code of t

the usual result is that the grand jury is discharged without a thorough and complete investigation.

Section 3956 of the Code of Virginia provides that whenever a justice of the peace shall "suspect" that any law punishable otherwise than by fine has been violated (and this includes the Byrd law), it shall be his duty to issue a summons for witness. es and examine them under oath in regard thereto, and if it appears that such law has been violated he shall issue a warrant for the guilty person and try him. This section of the Code gives to Justices of the Peace as full and complete power as is vested in the grand jury. Under this section of the Code a justice of the peace residing in the town of Poenhontas is under the obligation to hold an investigation of the conditions existing in and around said town. It is so much better for a justice of the peace to hold the investigation where the witnesses live and as the names of new witnesses are ascertained, he can have them brought before him with convenience and dispatch. In fact, a justice can make a more complete investigation in one or two days than a grand jury can in a week, and with very little inconvenience and exnense.

A justice of the peace shall "suspects" a violation of the prohibition laws and not wait for three months for a grand jury to be impaneled. Such a delay and neglect of duty would give violators of the law ample time to do a wholesale business and escape the jurisdiction of the Circuit Court before the time arrives for a grand jury to be impaneled. Such a delay and neglect of duty would give violators of the law ample time to do a wholesale business and escape the jurisdiction of the Circuit Court before the time arrives for a grand jury to be impaneled. The mayor and each member of the council of the town of Pocahontas of the prohibition laws and not wait for three months for a grand jury to be impaneled. Such a delay and neglect of duty would give violators of the law ample time to do a wholesale business and escape the jurisdiction of the

ed.

The mayor and each member of the council of the town of Pocahontas are ex officio justices of the neace, and they, as well as police officers, are charged with the duty of enforcing the prohibition laws. Officers failing to perform their duties are subject to be removed from office under the recent Ouster Law, on sworn complaint to the Circuit Court by any verson, corporation or organization.

The only effective way to break up misdemeanor violations is by the prompt action of the local officers.

The Police Justice informs me he

misdemeanor violations is by the prompt action of the local officers.

The Police Justlee informs me he is doing his best to put a stop to violations there of the prohibition laws. Some persons have been convicted by him, others are now under arrest, and warrants for others are about ready to be issued, pursuant to an investigation by him. I do not know what support the police justice is receiving from the people of the town. I have been urging the local officers to do their full duty in this matter, and I will aid them all I can through the grand jury, but as stated above the principle work should be done by the local authorities. It now appears that the prospect is good for a vigorous prosecution of the moonshiners in and around Pocahontas, and it is to ous prosecution of the moonshiners in and around Pocahontas, and it is to be hoped that the people of the town will give their Police Justice their undivided support in this matter.

In answering your inquiry I have taken occasion to go into the legal situation at some length in order that the people of the county may know what to expect of the local officers in

pach county. Respectfully,
JAMES W. HARMAN,
Commonwealth's Attorney.

THE RECENT STORM

THE RECENT STORM.

From recent reports received from different parts of this county, considerable damage was wrought by the recent storm, which swept all the eastern and southwestern sections of the country, doing great damage along the larger streams.

In this county trees were uprooted, corn was blown down and in some cases broken off. Apples were blown down in great quantities, as also were grapes. In some localities meadows were swept clean of hay just mowed, wheat shocks blown down and damage to the wheat. The Clinch was high and in some places out of its banks, but so far as reported no very considerable damage was done. In Burke's Garden the big mill dam at John P. Gose's mill was injured, a part of the bank giving away on one end.

part of the bank giving away on one end.

This county came out remarkably well when compared with other sections of the south and southwest. The railroad and county bridges along the New River and in Tennessee and in North Carolina, as well as the farms, were seriously injured. The Ohio river is reported as being dangerously high.

In certain portions of the county the dirt roads were washed out, but no damage has been reported to the new roads.

Not since 1878 have the waters been as high as they were last week, in certain sections of the southwest.

MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The North Tazewell Ladies Missionary Society met Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. W. H. Peery, with the following members present: Mrs. Mary O'Keeffe, Mrs. S. A. Peery, Mrs. Henry Peery, Mrs. Marsh Kiser, Mrs. A. G. Kiser, Mrs. Lack Whitley, Mrs. John Hopkins, Miss Lyde McCall. Visitors Miss Jessie Groseclose, of Lexington, Va., Miss Besie Peery, of Cedar Bluff, Mrs. George McCall, of Raven. After an interesting program, delightful refreshments were served by the hostess.

"MOLLIE HOPPER" CAMPING PARTY.

The camping party to the "Mollie Hopper" Hole this year will be composed of the following young ladies and gentlemen: Miss Mannie St. Clair, chaperon; Misses Katherine St. Clair, Mary Preston, Marea St. Clair, Mary Moore, Mary Harman, Katherine Hall, Marie McNulty.

Messrs. Graham Preston, Henry Preston, Houston St. Clair, Billy Copenhaver, Charles St. Clair, Rufus Brittain, Charles Pepper Gillespie. Edward Jackson, Dr. Henry T. Haley, K. C. (Prince of Pence) Patty, Robert Brown, Thomas and Cecil Martin.

Carried Out in Burke's Garden

Carried Out in Burke's Garden

Resident Person, Henry

Messra, Graham Preston, Henry

Messra, Graham Preston, Henry

Messra, Graham Preston, Henry

Messra, Graham Preston, Henry

Barke's Garden, Va., July 20.

For several months there has been pristant. Charles St. Clair, Rafus being of a community libration the found of K. C. (Prince of Pence) Patty. Robin and Cerl Martin, and the Community Biraty disa as broad in its conception and so bit littles of the treatment of the same time for your person. The makes were, as a rule, in a fine for your many readers who have a present it not only as a mounty of the community districts of the Community Biraty disa so throad littles of the Lawrence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and does of general Carrele, but the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and the sedence of Mrs. J. D. Harrisson, and the sedence of Mrs

are pending looking to securing the building. It should be stated, as was suggest-ed, that when the Taewell Fair people changed their date they did so with-out thinking of the conflict of dates.

GILLESPIE-ST. CLAIR

USERS OF THE 'PHONES TESTIFY

Business And Professional Men Were Asked as to The Service, And They Make Plain Replies.

The News has taken the trouble of getting an expression from the business men of this town who have telephones as to the service they are receiving. The following are the replies given to the question, "Is your telephone service satisfactory?"

Tazewell National Bank: "Service phone service satisfactory."

C. T. Peery & Son: "It's better than it was."

Harrisson, Barns & Co.: "Service than it used to be."

Harwins' Pharmacy: Better than formerly."

Dr. P. D. Johnston: "Telephone service rotten. Statements to the contrary are all lies."

Bank of Clinch Valley: "Telephone service satisfactory NOW."

G. M. St. Clair: "Reasonably satisfactory."

Jeff Ward: "It has not been; better now than usual."

H. P. Brittain, County Treasurer: "Very satisfactory, But I think as a 12 M to 5 p. m. Miss Sallie is at the switchboard."

W. I. Painter: "Service unsatisfactory."

W. F. Harman: "Service unsatisfactory."

W. F. Harman: "Service unsatisfactory."

J. A. Greever: "Service unsatisfactory."

J. R. B. Cockett: "Service is now better."

Trazewell Republican: "I have had no trouble lately."

MISS SALLIE McCLINTOCK'S

HOURS IN CENTRAL.

Upon inquiry it is learned that "Miss Sallie, is and Miss Whitaker are business and the service of the seven and the service of the service

board."

R. C. Chapman: "Not entirely."
C. V. Insurance Agency: "When Miss Sallie is at the Switchboard no complaint to make."
J. S. Bottimore: "Our service is not good,"
C. R. Brown, (a stockholder of the Bluefield Telephone Co.): "My service is very unsatisfactory, except when Miss Sallie is at the switchboard."
W. I. Painter: "Service unsatisfactory."

HOURS IN CENTRAL.

Upon inquiry it is learned that "Miss Sallie," chief operator in the central office here, is on duty as follows:

From 9 to 11 both operators, Miss Sallie and Miss Whitaker are budty, one at each switchboard. From 12 M to 5 p. m. Miss Sallie is in charge. From 5 to 7 Miss Whitaker, From 7 p. m., to 7 a. m., Lawrence Painter is in charge.

So it appears that of the ten hour day Miss Sallie is in charge for seven hours, nearly all day, during which time nine-tenths of the business of the office is done.

The Community Library Idea is

Carried Out in Burke's Garden

Sermons By Colored Minister Were Highly Praised-Mayor's Welcome Address Pleases Visitors.

The Bluefield District conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, of the Methodist Episcopal church colored, in its recent session of several days in this town, was a success from the beginning. There were be tween 75 and 100 delegates, ministers and visitors and the conference was well taken care of by the colore people. The entire assemblage was composed of quiet, earnest, well dress ed people. The ministers made a fine impression wherever heard.

The culminative means of several colores are the colores of the colo

The culminating events of the conference occurred on Sanday with two sermons—one in the court house, and one in the Main Street Metodis church, (white), on Sunday night, he sides several sermons at the colored church druing the day.

Rev. Mr. Thomas at the Court House. There was much interest taken in the service in the Court House on Sunday morning, held chiefly for the white people, who occupied nearly all of the space in the large room.

The song service was in charge of T. B. Warren, assisted by a number of efficient singers, and every song was well rendered and hearily enjoyed.

Rev. Mr. Thomas, the preacher, and

Jeff Ward: "It has not been; better now than usual."

H. P. Brittain, County Treasurer: "Very satisfactory. But I think as a public officer, the Court House should not be required to pay telephone rent in view of the privileges granted the phone company on the public highways of the county. Also the county should be made a unit of service, and subscribers in the county should be made a unit of service, and subscribers in the county should not be required to pay tell within the county, and a minimum rental should be made a unit of service, and subscribers in the county should not be required to pay toll within the county, and a minimum rental should be established which would justify such phone service."

G. A. Martin, County Road Engineer: "No complaints to make." Chapman, Peery & Buchanan: "Rensonably satisfactory."

T. C. Bowen: "When Miss Sallie is at the awitchboard the service could not be better."

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Greever & Gillespie: "Service bet-"

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T. B. Warren, assisted by a number of efficient singers, and every song of efficient singers, and every song was well rendered and hearily enjoy was well rendered and hearily enjoy. So it appears that of the two hours, nearly all day, during which time nine-tenths of the business of the office is done.

IMPORTANT LETTER LOST.

One day last week a letter addressed to Mr. J. L. Hardin, Treasure of Emory and Henry College, was lost between Main Street and the pasture field of A. Z. Litz by one of the cowboys. Finder please return to this office or to Geo. W. Patton and receive reward.

The song service was in charge of Efficient singers, and every song of efficient singers, and every song of efficient singers, and every song was well rendered and hearily enjoy. No reflected and hearily enjoy. Sall the service and the surface of the control of the office of the control of the singer sall end of the singer sall end of the singer sall end of the singer sall

prenched in the Main Street Methodst church. On Monday all the ministers left

ter now." Harman & Pobst: "We are not making public our complaints," R. O. Crockett: "Nothing to say." H. L. Spratt: "Not satisfactory." M. J. Hankins: "It is now." W. E. Peerry: "It has not been, except when Miss Sallie is at the switchboard." R. C. Chapman: "Not entirely." C. V. Insurance Agency: "When Miss Sallie is at the switch with sallie is at the switch board." Sermons By Colored Minister Were Highly Praised or their homes. During the conference about \$150 was raised in cash, the white people giving between \$40 and \$50 of the FINE PREACHER

amount.

A feature of the service in the colored church at the opening of the session was the address of welcome by Mayor II. R. Hawthorne, which the colored people greatly appreciated. POUNDING MILL NEWS NOTES.

Pounding Mill, July 19.—Will Rees Sparks was here recently to see his mother, Mrs. Martha Sparks on his way to Bluefield, to have his eyes filled.

GEO W. LITZ **DIED YESTERDAY**

RITTER LUMBER COMPANY. PASSES AFTER WEEK'S SUF-FERING FROM ACCIDENT.

George W. Litz, whose serious accident and subsequent critical condition, has caused much concern here, died in the hospital in Gastonia, N. C., yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. The mossage bringing the sad intelligence reached here yesterday afternoon about 6 o'clock. A message received earlier in the day indicated the seriousness of his condition, but expressed hope of his recovery.

The remains will reach here Sat-

The remains will reach here Sat-urday and burial will be in the new cemtery Sunday afternoon at one o'clock.

cemtery Sunday afternoon at one o'clock.

Deceased was 42 years old and is survived by a wife and one child—a girl twelve months old, and seven brothers and three sisters. They are Messrs, Peter G, and John L Litz, of Coeburn; D. H. Litz, of Morristowa Tenn.; Rome Litz, of Welch; James G. Litz, of Bluefield, and A. Z. and Jo. Litz, of Tazewell; Mrs. R. II. McGuire, Mrs. Rages Sluss and Mrs. T. R. Smoot, of Tazewell.

Mr. Litz was a member of O'Keeffe Royal Arch Chapter and Clinch Valley commandery of Tazewell.

Ile has been for a number of years assistant to the President of the W. M. Ritter Lumber Company, and has made his home in Columbus, Ohio. He has a host of friends and relatives in Tazewell and the Southwest, to whom the news of his passing will bring sorrow.

OPERA HOUSE NOW COMPLETED

Tazewell Can Now Boast of a Modern And Up-To-Date Show House-First Performance Next Wednesday.

Since the above was written the New Theatre recieved a telegram saying the Chicago Tribune's Great War Picture could be secured for Friday, July 28th. In order that out of town patrons may have an opportunity to see this picture an afternoon performance will be given at 3 o'clock.

C. C. PAYNE, ADMINISTRATOR.

Attorney C. C. Payne has been appointed administrator of the estate of his father, the late W. P. Payne. The value of the estate of the decased is estimated at \$120,000, the personal property being put at \$25,000. Mr. Payne made a will in June, 1914, in which he divided his property equally among his heirs.

Mrs. W. B. Young was given half interest in the place in Sinking Waters. Her brother, B. I. Payne, was given the other half. Mrs. Reece Young, the 300 acre farm at Bandy. J. Payne, the farm in Horsepen Cove. C. C. Payne, the home place, and Mrs. W. P. Payne the personal property. There still remains some property to be divided.

oe divided.

TAZEWELL AVENUE HAS NO REPRESENTATIVE.

REPRESENTATIVE.

Mr. Editor: Referring to your editorial in last week's paper in regard to Taxewell avenue's spectabular and delightful "ditch," I call attention to the fact, that the avenue, and that section of town has now no resident member of the council, since Mr. Steele, who was elected to represent that section of town, has sold out and moved to another part of the town. The lack of a representative here may account for our failure to get anything of value done to our streets and alleys. Had Mr. Steele remained among us no doubt he would have done for us fine service. He has succeeded finely in getting the street improved in the new section to which he moved, in the shortest time, and his removal from the avenue is regretted. The object of this writing is only to call attention to the fact that Tazewell avenue and vicinity is without a representative on the Board and I suppose must remain so until next election. The recent henvy rains have about filled up the "ditch" again which had just been cleaned out, and the work will have to be done over again in a short time.

TAZEWELL AVENUE TAX-PAYER.

July 17, 1916.

MORE KEYS FOUND.

MORE KEYS FOUND.

There are several bunches of keys in this office, left here by parties who picked them up on the street. Have you lost any keys?

PANORAMIC VIEW OF BEAUTIFUL BURKE'S GARDEN.

GILLESPIE-ST. CLAIR.

Mr. Roy R. St. Clair, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alex. St. Clair, and Mrs. Alex. St. Clair are respected for the discontinuous and the strain of the